

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

June 4, 2013

This year marks the County of Los Angeles' former Road Department's 100-Year Anniversary. The Road Department has travelled a long way as the County progressed over the last century. On June 2, 1913, the Road Department began operations with 1,450 employees to carry out construction, road and bridge work, and maintenance operations on 3,708 miles of road, of which only 358 miles were paved.

In 1985, the Road Department became part of the newly created Department of Public Works following amalgamation with the County Engineer and the Flood Control District.

Today, Public Works is responsible for the administration, engineering, and physical activities required to maintain 3,218 miles of roadway infrastructure in the unincorporated areas and nearly 1,800 miles of roadway for 15 cities that contract for road maintenance services. In addition, Public Works maintains 100 miles of Class I bike trails along flood control channels and public beaches.

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The Department is also responsible for nearly 20 miles of Class II bike lanes and 24 miles of Class III bike lanes designated along the roadways in the unincorporated County areas.

Public Works protects the County's streets and highways through regular maintenance, improvement projects, and emergency response. Efforts include pavement patching, litter and debris removal, resurfacing, reconstruction, slurry seal, guardrail repair, street sweeping, vegetation control, tree trimming, snow removal, curb painting, pavement striping and marking, and parkway improvements; and the maintenance of landscaped medians, dirt roads, bike paths, 1,900 traffic signals, 460 bridges, over 200,000 traffic and street name signs, and 115,000 street lights.

Today, Public Works mission is to provide public infrastructure and municipal services to protect and enrich the daily lives of over ten million people in the County of Los Angeles. That charge is demonstrated through the service-oriented resolve of our Public Works employees, from administrators and support staff to our crews in the field.

Public Works would like to honor and recognize the stalwart Road Maintenance Workers who have worked hard to maintain County roadways throughout the last century.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that June 2013 be designated as the County of Los Angeles former Road Department's 100-Year Anniversary.

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